



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hsien-Chung Tuan-Mu :
Serial No: 10/092,596 : Art Unit #3723
Filed: 8 March 2002 : Examiner:
Title: SINGLE-DIRECTION : J. G. Smith
OPERATION TYPE RATCHET
WRENCH STRUCTURE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Applicant wishes to make the following art references of record in the above-identified Patent Application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, and to the Duty of Disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56

Although the information submitted herewith may be “material” to the Examiner’s consideration of the subject Patent Application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is “prior art” as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search was made or that no other material information, as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b), exists.

The cited references are:

<u>Ref. No.</u>	<u>Doc. No.</u>	<u>Pub. Date</u>	<u>Language</u>	<u>Translation</u>	<u>Country</u>
A	TW-82210886	21 Aug. 2002	Chinese	No	Taiwan
B	TW-87207075	11 Jun. 1999	Chinese	No	Taiwan
C	TW-88204777	01 Nov. 1999	Chinese	No	Taiwan

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(3)(i), a concise explanation of the relevance of the patents listed above, which are not in the English language, is hereby provided.

Utility model Patent Application 82210886 relates to a ratchet wrench, which comes with an improved structure making the size of the handle and the whole wrench shorter and thinner as compared with existing products. In Fig. 3, an “arrow” is shown on an adjustable head of the ratchet wrench; however there is no disclosure of an identification mechanism disposed on a hand tool.

Utility model Patent Application 87207075 is directed to an improved structure of a wrench handle having both sides of the handle embossed with easy gripping portions to promote the user's gripping frictional force when using the tool. This friction promoting design is not suggestive of the tactile identification concept of the invention of the subject Patent Application.

Utility model Patent Application 88204777 relates to a switch structure of a ratchet wrench, wherein a shallow recess is formed on the head to accommodate the switch lever therein. Indicia (L and R) are provided in end portions of the recess to indicate the proper switch operating position. However, there is suggestion of the tactile identification concept of the invention of the subject Patent Application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination and thus is equivalent to being filed less than three months from the filing of the subject Patent Application, and before the mailing of a first Office Action.

A Form PTO-1449 and copies of the references are submitted along with this document. It is requested that the Examiner consider the references and make them of record in the above-referenced Patent Application.

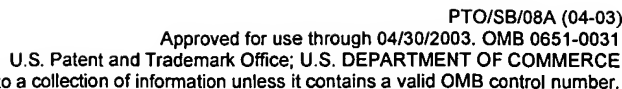
Respectfully submitted,
FOR: ROSENBERG, KLEIN & LEE



David I. Klein
Registration No. 33,253

Dated: 29 Sept. 2004

Suite 101
3458 Ellicott Center Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(410) 465-6678



Substitute for form 1449/PTO

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/092,596
Filing Date	8 March 2002
First Named Inventor	Hsien-Chung Tuan-Mu
Art Unit	3723
Examiner Name	J. G. Smith
Attorney Docket Number	MR3043-3

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	A	TW82210886	02/21/1195	Top Kogyo Co., Ltd.		
	B	TW87207075	06/11/1999	Chih-Ching Hsieh		
	C	TW88204777	11/01/1999	Stanley Chiro International		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.